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BT
UNCLAS STATE 193476
E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PL05
SUBJECT: MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY TO LOS CONFERENCE
PRESIDENT AMERASINGHE (SRI LANKA)
REF: STATE 189282
L. FOLLOWING IS THE MESSAGE THE SECRETARY SENT TO LOS
CONFERENCE PRESIDENT AMERASINGHE ON AUGUST 4. IT WAS
RELEASED TO THE PRESS IN WASHINGTON THE SAME DAY.
2. BEGIN TEXT. DEAR MR. PRESIDENT:
AS THE LAW OF THE SEA CONFERENCE RESUMES IN NEW YORK THIS
WEEK I WANT TO OFFER YOU THE VIEWS OF MY GOVERNMENT ON THE
IMPORTANCE OF COOPERATIVE PROGRESS TO RESOLVE THE MAJOR
OUTSTANDING ISSUES REMAINING BEFORE US.
AS YOU KNOW, IT IS THE BELIEF OF THE UNITED STATES THAT
THIS CONFERENCE HAS BEEN ENGAGED IN ONE OF THE MOST IMPOR-
TANT DIPLOMATIC NEGOTIATIONS IN HISTORY. NO CURRENT MATTER
ON THE INTERNATIONAL AGENDA IS MORE VITAL FOR THE LONG-
TERM STABILITY AND PROSPERITY OF OUR PLANET. UNLESS THE
COMPETITIVE PRACTICES AND CLAIMS OF NATIONS CAN BE
HARMONIZED, THE WORLD COULD WELL FACE THE PROSPECT OF
MOUNTING CONTENTION, OR EVEN CONFLICT.
THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE CONFERENCE THUS FAR GIVE US
HOPE THAT A SUCCESSFUL CONCLUSION IS POSSIBLE -- ONE WHICH
ALL NATIONS AND GROUPS OF NATIONS SHOULD FIND SATISFACTORY.
BUT WE HAVE NOW COME TO A POINT WHERE RAPID, RESPONSIBLE
AND COOPERATIVE PROGRESS IS INDISPENSABLE. THE WORLD
COMMUNITY NOW FACES THE POSSIBILITY THAT DOMESTIC PRESSURES
OF MANY NATIONS MAY SET IN MOTION UNILATERAL NATIONAL MOVES
WHICH COULD GRAVELY IMPAIR THE CHANCES OF ACHIEVING A
TREATY IN THE NEAR FUTURE, IF AT ALL. THUS IT IS VITAL
THAT THIS CURRENT SESSION OF THE CONFERENCE BE SUCCESSFUL.

WS Chano

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THE UNITED STATES ATTACHES THE UTMOST IMPORTANCE TO THIS OBJECTIVE. I WILL ATTEND THE CONFERENCE DURING THE WEEK OF AUGUST 9, AND AT OTHER TIMES THROUGHOUT THE SESSION WILL GIVE THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE MY PERSONAL ATTENTION. THE LEADERS OF ALL DELEGATIONS AND THEIR GOVERNMENTS SHARE A HEAVY RESPONSIBILITY TO WORK CONSCIENTIOUSLY AND WITH PERSERVERANCE. IF WE DO SO, I AM CONVINCED THAT IT WILL BE POSSIBLE FOR US TO RESO'VE THE MAJOR REMAINING ISSUES DURING THIS SESSION.
AS ALWAYS, MR. PRESIDENT, YOUR LEADERSHIP WILL BE OF GREAT IMPORTANCE. I WANT TO CONVEY TO YOU MY OWN APPRECIATION, AND THAT OF THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES, FOR THE WORK YOU HAVE DONE.

I REGRET THAT I WILL NOT HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH YOU BEFORE YOUR DEPARTURE FOR THE MEETING OF THE NON-ALIGNED NATIONS IN COLUMBO. BUT I WANT TO ASSURE YOU NOW THAT YOU MAY COUNT ON THE CONTINUING COMMITMENT OF THE UNITED STATES DELEGATION TO WORK WITH YOU AND WITH ALL OTHERS AT THIS SESSION IN A SPIRIT OF MUTUAL COOPERATION. WE HAVE, MR. PRESIDENT, AN OPPORTUNITY AND A DUTY TO MAKE THIS CONFERENCE A CORNERSTONE OF A NEW ERA IN INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS WHICH BRINGS PEACE, PROSPERITY AND JUSTICE TO ALL PEOPLES.

WITH MY BEST WISHES,
SINCERELY,
HENRY A. KISSINGER
END TEXT. HABIB

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